

WE CLAIM:

1. An electrical device connector adapted to couple to a portable electronic device, comprising:

a body having a plurality of conductors
5 terminating at a first interface, a plurality of conductors terminating at a second interface adapted to couple to the portable electronic device;

wherein the device connector is rated at a predetermined power rating, and has a peripheral 10 contoured body portion having a profile being a function of the device connector power rating, the first interface being configured to be connectable to only a power source connector power rated at least as high as the device connector power rating.

15 2. The electrical device connector as specified in Claim 1 wherein the peripheral contoured body portion is disposed about the first interface.

3. The electrical device connector as specified in Claim 1 wherein the device connector power rating 20 is commensurate with a power rating of a portable electronic device adapted to be coupled thereto.

4. The electrical device connector as specified in Claim 1 wherein the device connector comprises an electrical component establishing the device connector 25 power rating.

5. The electrical device connector as specified in Claim 1 wherein the electrical component comprises a resistor.

6. The electrical device connector as specified
5 in Claim 1 wherein the device connector contoured body portion has a keyed portion adapted to interfere with a power source connector power rated below the device connector power rating.

7. The electrical device connector as specified
10 in Claim 1 wherein the keyed portion comprises a lobe.

8. In combination: a first connector having a first power rating and having a plurality of conductors terminating at a first interface;

15 at least one second connector having a respective second power rating and having a plurality of conductors terminating at a respective second interface, wherein each of the second connectors has a third interface adapted to couple to a portable electronic device;

20 wherein the first interface is shaped so as to mechanically and electrically couple to each of the second connector second interfaces, such that only those second connectors having a power rating at or below the power rating of the first connector can be
25 coupled thereto.

9. The combination as specified in Claim 8
wherein the second connectors second interfaces are
shaped such that they are backward compatible with the
first connector.

5 10. The combination as specified in Claim 8
wherein the first connector first interface is shaped
such that it is backward compatible with the plurality
of second connectors.

10 11. The combination as specified in Claim 8
wherein the first interface is a socket and the second
interfaces are plugs.

12. The combination as specified in Claim 8
wherein the first interface is a plug and the second
interfaces are sockets.

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